

# DIMITER AND PERSEPHONE



*Dimiter was the goddess of agriculture and cultivation. One day a very beautiful baby was born by Dimitra, the Kore, which means "the Daughter". Her father was the god Zeus.*

*It was a sunny day and the Daughter was playing with the Nymphs, the daughters of the god Ocean, in a green field. Pluto, the god of Hades, which was the world of the dead, fell in love with her beauty. One day he asked Zeus for advice. Zeus proposed him to show Narkissos, a very beautiful flower, to her and when she will try to cut it, Pluto could catch her! The Daughter saw Narkissos while she was playing with Nymphs, and she went to cut it. Pluto appeared on his black chariot on the earth, he caught the Daughter and he took her to the world of the dead.*

*Her mother, Dimitra, was looking for her everywhere nine days and nine nights. Searching for her, Dimitra went to Elefsina which is a little town near Athens. She sat on a rock and she was crying. A family saw her and took her to their house. The Goddess Ekati and the God Sun only knew what had happened with the Daughter. So, goddess Ekati took her to the Sun. The Sun told her that Pluto had stolen Daughter and that she was the queen of the world of the dead anymore. Angry Dimitra didn't care about the nature anymore. As days passed, the plants were dying because of her tears and the people were hungry. Because of all this, the Daughter had another name any more. Because of her there was murder (phonos in Greek) of the nature and the people, so she was called Persephone.*

*Zeus sent the god Hermes, which was the messenger of gods, to Pluto to tell him that Persephone should return to the world of the living, because the nature and the people were dying. Pluto answered that she had to return after 6 months and stay with him for 6 months. Before Persephone left, Pluto gave pomegranate seeds to her to eat them so she shouldn't forget him and she should return for 6 months. When she went back to human world all the plants grew again, the trees were full of fruits again and the people had food, because Dimitra was happy. Since then we have four (4) seasons on earth, Autumn, Winter, Spring and Summer. The plants live and die as everything does in the life cycle. Everything is based on this contrast of life and death. Dimitra gave the grain to us and we must plant the seed of grain into the ground which is the world of the dead in order to take life from it.*

*the end*

## *places connected to the legend "DIMITER AND PERSEPHONE"*

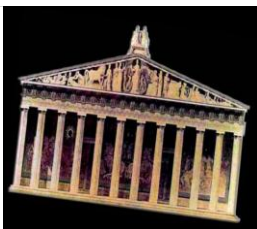


*Ancient Elefsina ( Eleusis ) is the place where Persephone was stolen by Pluto and where Greeks loved and honored Dimitra for many years.*



*Ploutoneion  
This is the cave where Pluto appeared and took Persephone to the world of the dead.*

*Here Dimitra sat and cried while she was looking for Persephone.*



*The temple of Dimitra during ancient years.*